



autism
NOVA SCOTIA

Presents

Exploring the Spectrum Conference

Thursday, March 2 to Friday, March 3, 2017
World Trade and Convention Centre,
1800 Argyle Street, Halifax, NS

Registration Package



Autism Nova Scotia Presents
Exploring the Spectrum Conference
Thursday, March 2 & Friday, March 3, 2017
Full day sessions 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
1800 Argyle Street, Halifax, NS

About the Conference

The third **Exploring the Spectrum Conference** offers parents, caregivers, educators, and individuals on the Autism Spectrum an opportunity to come together to share and learn more about current themes and innovations of interest to the autism community.

The conference features a variety of topics including healthy relationships, managing complex behaviours, current research and employment supports.

Organizations will also be on-site in the Exhibitor Hall, featuring products and services that pertain to life on the Autism Spectrum as well as information and tools for professionals and caregivers.

We look forward to welcoming up to 300 attendees from across disciplines and across the country.

Keynote Speaker: Steve Silberman



Steve Silberman, author of the award-winning book *NeuroTribes: The Legacy of Autism and the Future of Neurodiversity* is this year's keynote speaker. His work promotes an inclusive approach and full participation in society for people living with autism. It was also the first publication of its kind to receive the Samuel Johnson Prize.

Steve has spoken about autism at many major organizations and schools, including Microsoft, Yale and MIT. He also gave a TED talk about autism called "The Forgotten History of Autism", which has received over a million views.



Autism Nova Scotia Presents
Exploring the Spectrum Conference
Thursday, March 2 & Friday, March 3, 2017
Full day sessions 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
1800 Argyle Street, Halifax, NS

Conference Themes

Bringing together experts, parents and individuals living with autism together focusing on current topics including life experiences of women with ASD, exploring relationships and complex behaviour, research innovations, transition readiness and inclusive employment.

Special Guests:

- **Jo-Lynn Fenton** - a parent of two sons with autism shares her poignant, inspiring and uplifting story of parenting exceptional young men.
- **Dr. Isabel Smith** - current Joan & Jack Craig Chair in Autism Research shares research innovations in Nova Scotia.
- **Cynthia Carroll** - Executive Director of Autism Nova Scotia, Chair of Canadian Autism Spectrum Disorder Alliance (CASDA) shares insight into development of employability skills for inclusive workplaces.
- A panel of experts featuring a woman's perspective on living with ASD, complex friendships and partnerships including **Dr. Shannon Johnson**, psychologist specializing in working with adults living with ASD.

Conference Schedule, Accommodations and Networking Opportunities

Conference sessions begin at 9:00 a.m. and end at 4:00 p.m. each day. Attendees will enjoy morning and afternoon breaks and opportunities to network with exhibitors featuring vendors and community partners.

Lunch will be provided on-site on March 2, 2017; a list of potential lunch options will be provided for March 3, 2017.

Travelling for our conference?

The Lord Nelson Hotel located in downtown Halifax provides attendees a conference rate available upon request until February 10, 2017. Rooms can be booked using this link: <https://res.lordnelsonhotel.com/booking/default.aspx?Group=37536>. For more information visit www.lordnelsonhotel.ca.



Autism Nova Scotia Presents
Exploring the Spectrum Conference
Thursday, March 2 & Friday, March 3, 2017
Full day sessions 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
1800 Argyle Street, Halifax, NS

About Autism

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a lifelong neurodevelopmental disorder. People living with ASD often experience challenges with communication and social interactions and will display restrictive and repetitive behaviour. However, even though each individual is unique, all people with autism respond to effective interaction.

About Autism Nova Scotia

Autism Nova Scotia (ANS) is a registered charity located in Halifax, Nova Scotia with eight chapters across the province. Autism Nova Scotia was the original vision of Joan and Jack Craig, parents of an adult son with autism. Today, ANS supports individuals with autism, their families, educators, healthcare professionals and researchers throughout the province.

Autism Nova Scotia provides information materials, research assistance, a variety of program opportunities and a friendly atmosphere to support our members in their desire to understand autism. We offer assistance to individuals with autism so that they can live rich and full lives.

Join Us!

Send registration form and payment to:

Jade Ok
Finance Officer
Autism Nova Scotia
5945 Spring Garden Rd
Halifax, NS B3H 1Y4

Have questions? Call us at 902-446-4995.

Understanding • Acceptance • Inclusion

